

CPYRGHT

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NEWS

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A good case in point is the visit made here by Prime Minister Harold Macmillan. The Briton arrived to discuss joint efforts and pooling of scientific research. Yet there immediately arose a cry by pundits that he was here to forfend a "deal" in the making between the U.S. and Soviet Russia. This bit of fanciful froth took the form of declaring that Macmillan was disturbed about the possibility of an accord between the U.S. and Russia to split up global spheres of interests and thus leave our allies out in the cold. Implicit in the charge is a libel against the integrity of the U.S. No such "deal" is of course percolating and he who says so is either feckless or a fool or both.

Other comments which do not allow for the cool appraisal have taken the form of downgrading the significance of Sputnik and hinting darkly that it was launched not by a powerful rocket but by a balloon or of pooh-pooing the claims of the Russians that they possess an intercontinental missile. These have not at all helped to stiffen our awareness of danger and this awareness is desperately and urgently needed for national survival. To disparage the strength of the enemy is fatal for we must always assume that he is as strong, or even more formidable, than he says he is.

Now comes Billy Graham, the evangelist, who has it "on good authority," he says, that elements in the Kremlin are pushing for war within two years. He also warns the President not to give the American people a "false" sense of security. If Graham has access to information not in possession of our Central Intelligence Agency, then it is his duty to turn it over and CIA is due for a rap on the knuckles. If Graham is merely repeating hearsay with no substantial basis of fact, no one knows better than he the power of the public word to uplift and cheer—or dismay and alarm.

Nor is this the time for the "I-told-you-so" boys to gather in a Walpurgis Night dance in order to discredit the Administration. For if this be a time of national peril, the dignity, stature and strength of this country will take on fresh meanings with a truly bipartisan approach such as existed during both world wars. Postmortems are of value once a crisis is passed—but not while it is on. And we must assume we are in crisis for only in that frame of reference can we develop utmost security.

While second-guessing is on, and it is a public disservice, positive service and hard work is being done. And only the President is qualified to discuss those. No one else.

Date:

Too Many Cooks In A Stew

The marsh gases rise fitfully over the international swamps as sensation almost daily succeeds sensation. And the gases take on an eerie phosphorescence as altogether too many unqualified people issue statements either out of personal vanity or to profit politically.

During the past month of unease, the inept and the calculating have not at all served the national interest by talking up on matters about which they have little competency or background. This cannot be said too sharply.

It must be stated and restated that the sole person in this country who bears the responsibility and can express with lucidity just what dangers, immediate or long term, are ahead is President Eisenhower. It is needful perhaps to remind the people that as a military man he is unmatched for he led the allies to victory in the most titanic struggle in history.

The depth and the scope of public unease, if such truly exists, has not at all been charted by anyone. However, the President has already scheduled a series of talks to the nation on the grave questions of the moment. He will not seek to allay fears if there are reasons for insecurity. He will not use pacifiers nor will he spoon-feed. As a military man, he is deeply grounded in harsh realities and does not engage in self-deception nor would he compound such a chicanery upon the people.

There are good reasons for his slated talks. There are too many who stand at the sidelines and bay at the Sputnik or heckle at the progress made in missiles or other weapons—and they have added to the confused scene intentionally or otherwise.

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